

Dated: December 20, 1999.

Evelyn S. Lieberman,

Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

[FR Doc. 00-184 Filed 1-4-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Office of the Secretary

Aviation Proceedings, Agreements filed during the week ending December 24, 1999

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Sections 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days of date of filing.

Docket Number: OST-99-6694.

Date Filed: December 21, 1999.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject:

PSC/Reso/101 dated November 17, 1999 Expedited Resos and Recommended Practices r1-11

Intended effective date: as early as December 31, 1999.

Andrea M. Jenkins,

Federal Register Liaison.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Noise Exposure Map Notice; Receipt of Noise Compatibility Program and Request for Review; Providence-T.F. Green Airport, Warwick, RI

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces its determination that the noise exposure map for Providence-T.F. Green Airport, as submitted by the Rhode Island Airport Corporation under the provisions of Title I of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (Pub. L. 96-193) and 14 CFR part 150, is in compliance with applicable requirements. The FAA also announces that it is reviewing a proposed noise compatibility program that was submitted for Providence-T.F. Green Airport under part 150 in conjunction with the noise exposure map, and that this program will be approved or disapproved on or before June 19, 2000.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The effective date of the FAA's determination on the noise

exposure map and of the start of its review of the associated noise compatibility program is December 22, 1999. The public comment period ends on March 7, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John C. Silva, Federal Aviation Administration, New England Region, Airports Division, ANE-600, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803.

Comments on the proposed noise compatibility program should also be submitted to the above office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces that the FAA finds that the noise exposure map submitted for Providence-T.F. Green Airport is in compliance with applicable requirements of part 150, effective December 22, 1999. Further, FAA is reviewing a proposed noise compatibility program for that airport which will be approved or disapproved on or before June 19, 2000. This notice also announces the availability of this program for public review and comment.

Under Section 103 of Title I of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), an airport operator may submit to the FAA a noise exposure map which meets applicable regulations and which depicts non compatible land uses as of the date of submission of such map, a description of projected aircraft operations, and the ways in which such operations will affect such map. The Act requires such map to be developed in consultation with interested and affected parties in the local community, government agencies, and persons using the airport. An airport operator who has submitted a noise exposure map that is found by FAA to be in compliance with the requirements of Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) part 150, promulgated pursuant to Title I of the Act, may submit a noise compatibility program for FAA approval which sets forth the measures the operator has taken, or proposes, for the introduction of additional non-compatible uses.

The Rhode Island Airport Corporation submitted to the FAA, on November 4, 1999, a noise exposure map, descriptions, and other documentation which were produced during the Airport Noise Compatibility Planning (Part 150) study at Providence-T.F. Green Airport from March 1998 to November 1999. It was requested that the FAA review this material as the noise exposure map, as described in Section 103(a)(1) of the Act, and that the noise mitigation measures, to be implemented jointly by the airport and

surrounding communities, be approved as a noise compatibility program under Section 104(b) of the Act.

The FAA has completed its review of the noise exposure map and related descriptions submitted by Rhode Island Airport Corporation. The specific maps under consideration were Exhibits 1-1, "1998 Existing NEM," and Exhibit 1-3, "2003 NCP/NEM", along with the supporting documentation in "FAR Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study Update." The FAA has determined that the maps for Providence-T.F. Green Airport are in compliance with applicable requirements. This determination is effective on December 22, 1999.

FAA's determination on an airport operator's noise exposure maps is limited to a finding that the maps were developed in accordance with the procedures contained in Appendix A of FAR part 150. Such determination does not constitute approval of the applicant's data, information or plans, or a commitment to approve a noise compatibility program or to fund the implementation of that program. If questions arise concerning the precise relationship of specific properties to noise exposure contours depicted on a noise exposure map submitted under Section 103 of the Act, it should be noted that the FAA is not involved in any way in determining the relative locations of specific properties with regard to the depicted noise contours, or in interpreting the noise exposure map to resolve questions concerning, for example, which properties should be covered by the provisions of Section 107 of the Act. These functions are inseparable from the ultimate land use control and planning responsibilities of local government. These local responsibilities are not changed in any way under Part 150 or through FAA's review of a noise exposure map. Therefore, the responsibility for the detailed overlaying of noise exposure contours onto the map depicting properties on the surface rests exclusively with the airport operator which submitted the map, or with those public agencies and planning agencies with which consultation is required under Section 103 of the Act. The FAA has relied on the certification by the airport operator, under Section 150.21 of FAR part 150, that the statutorily required consultation has been accomplished.

The FAA has formally received the noise compatibility program for Providence-T.F. Green Airport, also effective on December 22, 1999. Preliminary review of the submitted material indicates that it conforms to the requirements for the submittal of noise